

[25th March 1959]

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : After the examination of this question is completed, the suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered.

SRI T. S. RAMASWAMY PILLAI : May I know whether the Government is aware that a high level committee, the Damodara Asan Committee was appointed by the Kerala Government to go into the question in detail and that committee has recommended the abolition of the Thiruppuvaram tax without any compensation?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Yes, Sir, I have also heard of the report of the Committee. All that can be considered.

SRI T. T. DANIEL : May I know whether the Kerala Government have brought to the notice of this State Government the decision of the Panampalli Govinda Menon Ministry about the abolition of Maniamkaram tax?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : My impression is that the Kerala Government have suggested the abolition of the tax and also suggested that where the temples are now looked after by the Travancore Devosum Board should continue to be looked after by them or transferred to the Religious Endowment Board of this State compensating them. All these will be considered, Sir.

SRI T. T. DANIEL : May I know whether the negotiations now being carried on are being made on the basis of the reports and decisions of the erstwhile Travancore-Cochin State on the recommendations of the Damodara Asan Committee in regard to the abolition of Maniamkaram tax?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : All these details will be gone into, Sir.

SRI T. S. RAMASWAMY PILLAI : May I know whether the Government are aware of the fact that the tax burden is accumulating and getting unbearable and if so whether the Government will take speedy steps to abolish the tax?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Only recently we have received the report and the matter is under correspondence with the Kerala Government. We are actually examining the question and we will come to a decision as soon as possible.

“ Sripandaravagai ” and “ Thiruppuvaram ”

* 984 Q.—**SRI T. T. DANIEL :** Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether a Bill relating to the abolition of Sripandaravagai is sent to the Government by the Kerala Government;

(b) what the main recommendations of the Bill are; and

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(c) whether the State Government propose to bring in a legislation relating to the abolition of "Sripandaravagai" and "Thiruppuvaram" in the light of this Bill?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

SRI T. T. DANIEL : Is the Government aware that the Kerala Government has already brought in a legislation for the abolition of the tax and that that Bill is a clear departure from what they have agreed to and will the Government discuss the matter and the recommendations that they have made in the Bill before they negotiate on a Bill of this kind?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : As I said after the examination is over, the benefits of the knowledge and the other information that the hon. Members from that area may possess will be availed of.

SRI A. VEDARATHNAM : ஸார், இந்தப் பண்டார வகை, மணியங்கரம் என்றால் ஒன்றும் புரியவில்லை. அது என்னவென்று சொல்லுவார்களா ?

MR. SPEAKER : இதற்குக் கேள்வி நேரத்தில் எப்படிப் பதில் சொல்ல முடியும் ?

Scholarships for Harijans

* 985 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether any grant was given to this State in 1957-58 by the Centre for the award of scholarships by the State Harijan Welfare department; and

(b) if so, the amount and the number of students benefited thereby?

THE HON. SRI P. KAKKAN : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The grant received from the Centre during 1957-58 was Rs. 8,26,819 and the number of students benefited thereby was 12,903.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : மத்திய அரசாங்கம் 1957-58-க்கு 2 கோடி 20 லட்சம் ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கி இருந்தும் நம் மாகாணத்துக்கு மிகவும் குறைந்த அளவு அதாவது 8 லட்சம் ரூபாய்தான் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இதை அதிகப்படுத்த வேண்டுமென்று நம்முடைய அரசாங்கம் மத்திய சர்க்காரை வற்புறுத்தி இருக்கிறதா ? அதன் விளைவுகள் என்ன ?

THE HON. SRI P. KAKKAN : தனிக்கேள்வி போடவேண்டும். மத்திய சர்க்கார் அவர்கள் ஒதுக்கிய பணத்தில் இருந்து கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள் ஏன் கொடுக்கவில்லை என்று அவர்களைத்தான் கேட்கவேண்டும். இங்கு கேட்டால் என்ன செய்வது ?